**Implementation of Special Component Plan**

2296. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of action taken by Government to implement Special Component Plan;

(b) whether Government is aware that the spirit of Special Component Plan is thoroughly flouted by most State Governments;

(c) how Government would impose penalty against the defaulting States;

(d) whether Government would table a white paper on the implementation of Special Component Plan during the Tenth Five Year Plan period;

(e) what is the agenda in this regard for the current Eleventh Five Year Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) Planning Commission circulated the consolidated guidelines on Scheduled Castes Sub Plan (SCSP), earlier known as Special Component Plan (SCP), in October, 2005, to States/UTs. These guidelines, inter alia, include:

- Earmarking of funds under SCSP from the total State/UT Plan outlay, at least in proportion to SC population.
- Placing the earmarked funds under separate budget head/sub head.
- Making the Social Welfare Department/the Department concerned with the welfare of SCs as nodal department for implementation of SCSP.
- Placing the funds earkarked at the disposal of the nodal department.

(b) and (c) As per the available information, the percentage allocation under SCSP by States/UTs has increases from 11.20% in 2005-06, to 12.98% in 2006-07 and 15.82% in 2007-08, as against 16.2% share of SCs in total population of the country. Under the scheme of Special Central Assistance to SCSP, 25% of the funds are released to States/UTs on the basis of their performance in implementation of SCSP.

(d) and (e) Following important measures are envisaged during Eleventh Five Year Plan for effective and meaningful implementation of SCSP.

- Development appropriate development programmae, specifically relevant for the overall development of SCs.
- Designing a special mechanism for formulation and implementation of SCSP.
- Making actual budgetary provisions through allocation of funds under a special head designated for SCSP.
- Ensuring timely release of SCSP funds for the purpose (s) they are meant for.

**Policy on reservation for STs**

2297. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state: